

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 are all the claims pending in the application. We are pleased to report that claims 3-5, 7 and 8 are allowed. Claims 1 and 2 stand rejected. Claim 6 is objected to.¹

The Examiner has not indicated approval of the drawings filed on May 16, 2002. Applicants respectfully request such approval from the Examiner in the next Office paper.

Claim 6 is objected to because of informalities. Claim 6 is amended to remove any ambiguities, and therefore, claim 6 is now in condition for allowance.

The Abstract of the Disclosure is objected to because it contains legal phraseology and because it exceeds the allotted word count. The Abstract is amended to obviate these objections.

Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Weisner et al. (5,262,944).

Analysis

With respect to claims 1 and 2, the claims are amended to clarify that the displaying steps are performed by a device disposed at a bedside of one of a plurality of patients. That is, the bedside monitor is disposed at a bedside of one of the patients, and the bedside monitor comprises the display sections.

The claimed invention is distinguishable from Weisner because the exemplified display in Weisner is provided at a central station 20 instead of at a bedside. See col. 4, lines 66-68 and

¹ No prior art rejections have been applied against claim 6; thus, it is presumed that this claim would be allowable if the objections are overcome.

Fig. 3; and col. 5, lines 49-51 and Fig. 4. Moreover, as shown in Fig. 1 of Weisner, the central station 20 is distinguishable from the bedside monitor 10.

The present invention provides benefits over the system in Weisner, as discussed on pages 1-3 of the pending application. In particular, due to shortages of healthcare providers in hospitals, there is a need for the healthcare provider to be able to easily monitor other patients while in another patient's room. With the present invention, it is easier for the healthcare provider to be in one patient's room, tending to their needs, and still be able to monitor another patient's vitals without having to return to the central station or having to perform intricate operations on the bedside monitor to view other patients while in the one particular patient's room.

In view of the foregoing, Weisner fails to anticipate claims 1 and 2.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Appln. No. 10/090,165

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

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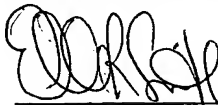
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Respectfully submitted,



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